Appl. No. 09/600,847

Amdt. Dated Jan. 7, 2004

Reply to office Action of July 9, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully

requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following

remarks.

In the communication mailed on July 9, 2003, the Examiner

indicated that the present application is in condition for

allowance except for two formal matters.

The abstract of the disclosure was objected to as exceeding

150 words. A replacement abstract of appropriate length has been

provided herewith.

The specification was objected to as not providing the

required arrangement. The specification has been amended to

provide appropriate section headings.

Applicants believe that the foregoing amendments address the

formal matters cited by the Examiner and place the present

application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicants

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respectfully request that the foregoing amendment be entered at an early date and that the case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

CLAUS SCHIERZ ET AL

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EJC:kkw

attachment A: replacement abstract

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP FEE AMENDMENT, Commissioner of Patents, U.S. PTO, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 7, 2004.

Maria Guastella

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ATTACHMENT "A"